

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PATENT
APPLICATION OF: Francois NOIROT-
NERIN

CONFIRMATION No.: 8414

SERIAL NUMBER : 10/733,747

EXAMINER: Chuck O. Kendall

FILING DATE : December 11, 2003

ART UNIT: 2192

FOR : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COMPARING OBJECTS

**COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

A statement of reasons for indicating allowable subject matter was attached to the Notice of Allowance mailed November 9, 2007, for the above-identified application.

The Applicant appreciates the Notice of Allowance for claims 1-7, 10-19, 22-31, and 34-37 of the present application, but would like to note that each independent claim and each dependent claim is separately patentably distinguishable over the references relied upon by the Examiner, as such references do not disclose or render obvious the respective combinations of elements in each respective independent and each respective dependent claim.

For example, the references relied upon by the Examiner do not disclose, teach, or suggest a method for comparing objects according to claim 1 of the present invention, which includes:

selecting a first object and a second object, each object associated with an instance of at least one primary parameter and an instance of at least one secondary parameter, each secondary parameter associated with one of the primary parameters;

comparing at least a portion of the first object and at least a portion of the second object to identify one or more differences between the selected objects;
identifying at least a portion of the differences as ignorable based, at least in part, on the one or more primary parameters; and
partially restoring the first object based on the second object using at least a portion of differences not identified as ignorable, wherein the restoring includes:
selecting one or more primary parameters to be restored;
selecting a secondary parameter instance from each object, the secondary parameter instance associated with one of the selected primary parameters;
determining a non-dependent portion for each selected secondary parameter instance, the non-dependent portion comprising the value of the secondary parameter instance minus a value of the associated primary parameter instance; and
replacing each selected secondary parameter instance from the first object with the primary parameter instance from the second object and the non-dependent portion from the selected secondary parameter instance from the first object.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a software for comparing objects according to Claim 13 of the present invention, the software encoded in a computer readable media and operable when executed on a computer to:

select a first object and a second object, each object associated with an instance of at least one primary parameter and an instance of at least one secondary parameter, each secondary parameter associated with one of the primary parameters;
compare at least a portion of the first object and at least a portion of the second object to identify one or more differences between the selected objects;
identify at least a portion of the differences as ignorable based, at least in part, on the one or more primary parameters; and
partially restore the first object based on the second object using at least a portion of differences not identified as ignorable, wherein the software instructions

operable to partially restore the first object based on the second object include software instructions operable to:

- select one or more primary parameters to be restored;
- select a secondary parameter instance from each object, the secondary parameter instance associated with one of the selected primary parameters;
- determine a non-dependent portion for each selected secondary parameter instance, the non-dependent portion comprising the value of the secondary parameter instance minus a value of the associated primary parameter instance; and
- replace each selected secondary parameter instance from the first object with the primary parameter instance from the second object and the non-dependent portion from the selected secondary parameter instance from the first object.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a system for comparing objects according to Claim 25 of the present invention, which includes:

memory for storing a plurality of objects, each object associated with an instance of at least one primary parameter and an instance of at least one secondary parameter, each secondary parameter associated with one of the primary parameters; and

one or more processors collectively operable to:

- select a first object and a second object from the plurality of objects;
- compare at least a portion of the first object and at least a portion of the second object to identify one or more differences between the selected objects;
- identify at least a portion of the differences as ignorable based, at least in part, on the one or more primary parameters; and
- partially restore the first object based on the second object using at least a portion of differences not identified as ignorable, wherein the processors operable to partially restore the first object based on the second object include processors operable to:

- select one or more primary parameters to be restored;

select a secondary parameter instance from each object, the secondary parameter instance associated with one of the selected primary parameters;

determine a non-dependent portion for each selected secondary parameter instance, the non-dependent portion comprising the value of the secondary parameter instance minus a value of the associated primary parameter instance; and

replace each selected secondary parameter instance from the first object with the primary parameter instance from the second object and the non-dependent portion from the selected secondary parameter instance from the first object.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a system for comparing objects according to Claim 37 of the present invention, which includes:

means for selecting a first object and a second object, each object associated with an instance of at least one primary parameter and an instance of at least one secondary parameter, each secondary parameter associated with one of the primary parameters;

means for comparing at least a portion of the first object and at least a portion of the second object to identify one or more differences between the selected objects;

means for identifying at least a portion of the differences as ignorable based, at least in part, on the one or more primary parameters; and

means for partially restoring the first object based on the second object using at least a portion of differences not identified as ignorable, wherein the means for restoring includes:

means for selecting one or more primary parameters to be restored;

means for selecting a secondary parameter instance from each object, the secondary parameter instance associated with one of the selected primary parameters;

means for determining a non-dependent portion for each selected secondary parameter instance, the non-dependent portion comprising the value of the secondary parameter instance minus a value of the associated primary parameter instance; and


means for replacing each selected secondary parameter instance from the first object with the primary parameter instance from the second object and the non-dependent portion from the selected secondary parameter instance from the first object.

These comments, in response to the Examiner's reasons for indicating allowable subject matter, are timely submitted.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975 (Ref. No. 019287-0319697). The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Date: December 6, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By:  Reg. #55,878
For Rick A. Toering
Registration No. 43,195

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, Virginia 22102
Main: 703-770-7900
Fax: 703-770-7901